# **Preschool Funding in Iowa**

In lowa, early childhood education services are available through a complex system of models, service providers and funding streams. Through collaboration and partnerships, many preschool programs are able to provide high quality early childhood educational opportunities in communities.

#### Finance

Many preschool programs utilize a mixed delivery system through the braiding of various available funding sources. **Braided funding** is best described as **two or more funding sources used concurrently to maintain program costs.** Braiding of funding maintains source requirements for use of funds while implementing a practice of cost allocation. That is, expenditures are tracked through categories and by the individual sources, while any revenues are allocated accordingly. Braiding of funds supports school leaders in ensuring fidelity in use and for accountability purposes.

#### **Partner Resources**

These could including funding, services, staff, etc. May or may not have the same programmatic requirements of others in the partnership.

#### **Collaboration Considerations**

Frequency and modes of communication Applicable program requirements Funding source requirements Accountability requirements

### **District Resources**

These could include funding, services, staff, etc. May or may not have the same programmatic requirements of others in the partnership.

# COMMUNITY NEEDS

## For more information:

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# Possible Funding Sources

- Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program (SWVPP)
- Shared Vision Preschool Program (SVPP)
- Head Start
- Title 1
- Special Education
- Early Childhood Iowa (ECI)
- Parent Tuition
- Child Care Assistance
- Other grants and scholarships

## Program

Preschool leaders may consider the use of multiple funding sources when considering district partnerships. There are multiple layers to collaborative partnerships, just like that of a cake.

- Preschool program standards
- Classroom space
- Ages of children served
- Eligibility criteria
- · Group size and ratios
- · Length of day
- Provider qualifications
- Professional development



Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program, Head Start Programs, and Shared Visions Map

